# NEW ORLEANS JAZZ STUDY

NEWSLETTER NO. 1, AUGUST 1991

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

29.131:

READEX FICHE best copy available

# NEW ORLEANS J

August 1991, No. 1

**SUITABILITY/FEASIBILIT**
**PRESERVING AND INTERP**

JAZZ

*Jazz is internationally recognized as*
*art forms. In 1987 Congress design*
*outstanding artistic model of indivi*
*creative process, thus fulfilling the h*
*Resolution 57). New Orleans is ackn*
*cultural and musical elements blende*
*as New Orleans jazz. The crescent*
*as Jelly Roll Morton, Sidney Beche*
*recording carried their music to a wor*
*its early expressive styles are still v*
*Orleans. Recent years have seen an*
*produced by New Orleans' vibrant m*

Sidney Bechet

# AZZ STUDY NEWSLETTER

National Park Service/Denver Service Center

***STUDY AND STUDY OF ALTERNATIVES FOR***
***ETING THE ORIGINS OF JAZZ IN NEW ORLEANS***

## *A NATIONAL TREASURE*

*ne of the most significant indigenous American music and*
*ed jazz as a rare and valuable national treasure — "an*
*ual expression and democratic cooperation within the*
*hest ideals and aspirations of our republic" (Concurrent*
*wledged as the birthplace of jazz; in and around that city,*
*l to form the unique American music that became known*
*ty was the birthplace of major pioneer jazz artists, such*
*and Louis Armstrong, who through performances and*
*wide audience. Although jazz has evolved over the years,*
*ry much appreciated and performed, especially in New*
*mpressive number of important and influential musicians*
*sical environment.*

# THE NEW ORLEANS JAZZ STUDY

In 1990 Congress passed Public Law 101-499, which recognizes the cultural and historical significance of jazz and its New Orleans origins. The legislation directs the secretary of the interior, in consultation with the secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, to conduct a study of the suitability and feasibility of interpreting and preserving the origins of jazz in New Orleans. According to the legislation, the study will

- identify and assess sites and structures associated with the origins and early history of jazz in New Orleans,
- explore new programs for public outreach, jazz education, supporting second line bands and the efforts of established jazz archives in the city, and preserving the contributions of social and pleasure clubs,
- consider establishing a new national park system unit, or adding to Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, to interpret and preserve the origins of jazz in New Orleans, and
- consider alternatives for providing technical assistance to others involved in the preservation and interpretation of jazz.

The National Park Service, as an agent of the secretary of the interior, has assembled an interdisciplinary team to conduct the study.

| THE STUDY WILL | THE STUDY WILL **NOT** |
|---|---|
| Provide Congress with a range of alternative concepts for consideration | Be a detailed plan or action document |
| Explore the potential roles of the National Park Service and other entities in preserving and interpreting the origins of jazz in New Orleans | Prescribe actions that will detract from existing programs |
| Identify historic sites and structures associated with the origins and early history of jazz in New Orleans | Be involved with commercial theme park development |
| Identify existing and potential management and ownership of candidate sites and structures | Specify an acquisition program |

NEW ORLEANS

JAZZ STUDY

# THE PRESERVATION OF JAZZ ADVISORY COMMISSION

A 15-member Preservation of Jazz Advisory Commission was established by Congress to advise the secretary of the interior in preparing the study. The advisory commission will work directly with the NPS study team throughout the study process.

The first advisory commission meeting was held on May 3, 1991, at which time commission officers (two co-chairpersons and a secretary) were elected and future actions were discussed.

| WHO IS ON THE PRESERVATION OF JAZZ ADVISORY COMMISSION ? | |
|---|---|
| LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS IN PL 101-499 | APPOINTMENTS |
| One member to be appointed jointly by the speaker of the United States House of Representatives and the president pro tempore of the United States Senate; | Honorable Lindy Boggs, Co-Chair |
| The mayor of the city of New Orleans or the mayor's designee; | Mayor Sidney Barthelemy |
| One member who shall have experience in music education programs emphasizing jazz, to be appointed by the secretary of the interior from among recommendations submitted by the mayor of New Orleans; | Mr. Ellis Marsalis, Co-Chair |
| One member who is knowledgeable about tourism, to be appointed by the secretary of the interior from among recommendations submitted by local business and economic development groups; | Mr. Warren Reuther |
| One member to be appointed by the secretary of the interior from among recommendations submitted by the producers of the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival who shall have experience in the production of such festival; | Mr. Quint Davis |
| One member to be appointed by the secretary of the interior from among recommendations submitted by representatives of local historic preservation groups; | Mr. Jack Stewart |
| One member who is a recognized musician with knowledge and experience in the development of jazz in New Orleans, to be appointed by the chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts; | Dr. Michael White |
| One member who is a recognized local expert on the history and development of jazz in New Orleans and is familiar with existing local archival materials, to be appointed jointly by the chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the librarian of Congress. | Dr. Bruce Raeburn |
| Three members with recognized expertise in jazz, cultural or folklife preservation and interpretation, to be appointed by the secretary of the Smithsonian Institution; | Dr. Leon Goines<br>Dr. John Hasse<br>Mr. Cedric Hendricks |
| One member to be appointed by the secretary of the interior who shall be a resident of the Treme neighborhood of New Orleans; | Mr. Adolph Bynum |
| One member to be selected from recommendations submitted by local social and pleasure clubs, to be appointed by the chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts; | Mr. Jim Wright |
| One member to be appointed by the governor of Louisiana who shall be a member of the Louisiana State Music Commission; and | Ms. Joan Rhodes Brown, Secretary |
| The chairman of the Delta Region Preservation Commission who shall serve as an ex officio member of the commission. | Dr. Fritz Wagner |

# WHAT'S NEXT?

## PHASE 1 - INFORMATION GATHERING

To accomplish the purposes of the study, the NPS study team is gathering background information. The identification of associated historical sites and structures will be based on published material, including the 1990 study conducted by Earth Search, Inc., of New Orleans, which was jointly sponsored by the National Park Service and the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Foundation. Comments and information on sites and programs will be sought from individuals and organizations involved in jazz and its history, performance, archiving, and education, as well as from state and municipal agencies and the public.

The NPS study team and the advisory commission encourage your comments on the scope of the study and invite you to participate in the public meetings, to be held in August as described below.

## PHASE 2 — ANALYSIS OF SITES AND STRUCTURES

Sites and structures identified in phase 1 will be evaluated for national *significance* based on established NPS policies and criteria. The following four criteria were adapted from NPS policy specifically for the jazz study. To be considered nationally significant, sites or structures must

- have an outstanding and direct association with the origins and early history of jazz in New Orleans,
- possess exceptional value in illustrating or interpreting to the public the origins and early history of jazz in New Orleans,
- offer superlative opportunities for study of the origins and early history of jazz in New Orleans, and
- retain a high degree of integrity as a true, accurate, and relatively unspoiled resource associated with the origins and early history of jazz in New Orleans.

Those structures and sites determined to be nationally significant will then be evaluated for their *suitability* for inclusion in the national park system. A significant site or structure will be considered suitable if it represents early New Orleans jazz in a way that is not already adequately represented in the national park system.

Suitable structures will then be assessed for their *feasibility* for public use, i.e., whether or not the site or structure can be protected and managed for public use.

## PHASE 3 - DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVES

In consultation with the advisory commission, the team will develop a range of alternative management concepts and identify potential sites to accomplish the purposes of the legislation. Alternatives will explore historic sites and structures, interpretive performance and jazz education centers, and support for second line bands, social and pleasure clubs, and public/private archives.

The National Park Service recognizes that many candidate historical sites and structures are privately owned and that ownership is a sensitive issue. Various options to provide for protection and interpretation of sites and structures will be explored in the study, including cooperative agreements, local protection ordinances, lease-back arrangements, and preservation assistance, as well as fee acquisition.

## PHASE 4 - REPORT TO THE COMMISSION AND CONGRESS

The NPS study team will prepare a draft document presenting and evaluating the management alternatives for interpreting and commemorating jazz. The advisory commission will review the draft study, and their views will be included in the final document that will be transmitted to Congress through the secretary of the interior. After consideration of the document, Congress may implement one or more of the alternatives, create a new action, or take no action.

# COMMENT FORM

If you need more writing space, feel free to attach additional sheets of paper.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DENVER SERVICE CENTER
12795 W. ALAMEDA PARKWAY
P.O. BOX 25287
DENVER, COLORADO 80225-0287

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300

MAIL STOP: DSC/TCE

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**

FIRST CLASS Permit No. 12651 WASHINGTON, D.C.

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DENVER SERVICE CENTER - TCE
12795 W. ALAMEDA PARKWAY
P.O. BOX 25287
DENVER, CO 80225-0287

(fold here)

If you are not on our mailing list and you would like to receive further information about this study, please give us your name and address. If you are officially representing a group or organization, please include the name of the organization.

Name: _____

Street/P.O. Box: _____

City, State, and Zip: _____

# HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Your comments are important to the study and can make a difference. The attached comment form is preaddressed and postage paid. Comments on any or all of the following topics would be appreciated:

- sites and structures associated with the origins and early history of jazz in New Orleans
- interpreting the origins of jazz in New Orleans
- providing interpretive performances
- providing for public outreach
- developing a jazz education center
- providing support for second line bands, contributions of social and pleasure clubs, and public and private jazz archives

Your comments, along with all others received, will be carefully considered throughout the study.

You may also wish to attend the August meetings, described below.

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

The three hearings will be open-house style, and you are invited to come at any time during the hours indicated below. Additional information on the study will be available, and NPS planners and advisory commission members will be on hand to hear your ideas and concerns about the study. If you choose, your oral comments can be recorded; written comments will also be accepted.

OPEN HOUSE August 24, 1991, 2-6 p.m.
Treme Community Center, corner of N. Villere and St. Philip Street

OPEN HOUSE August 26, 1991, 4-8 p.m.
Xavier University Student Center, Gold Room

OPEN HOUSE August 27, 1991, 4-8 p.m.
Algiers Regional Library, 3014 Holiday Drive

## JAZZ HISTORY WORKSHOP

A workshop will be held August 28, 1991, to gather information and ideas on the origins and early history of jazz in New Orleans and on locations associated with the early days of jazz in the city. The workshop is open to the public, and persons with special knowledge of jazz history are encouraged to attend.

JAZZ HISTORY WORKSHOP August 28, 1991, 1-4 p.m.
Loyola University, Dana Center, Audubon Room

## PRESERVATION OF JAZZ ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETINGS

The advisory commission will hold two administrative meetings, which are open to the public.

August 23, 1991, 2:30-4:30 p.m., The Pontchartrain Hotel, 2031 St. Charles Ave.

August 28, 1991, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Loyola University, Dana Center, Octavia Room

★ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1991—573-040/20058 REGION 8

Printed on recycled paper

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DENVER SERVICE CENTER
12795 W. ALAMEDA PARKWAY
P.O. BOX 25287
DENVER, COLORADO 80225-0287

MAIL STOP: DSC/TCE

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300